

People & Stories/Gente y Cuentos: Outcome Domains and what *prison/re-entry participants* have to say
Excerpts from participant program evaluations

Self-Esteem	Literacy	Critical Thinking	Cultural Context	Authentic Voice	Engagement	Well-Being
<p><i>"I feel good that I finished something. I am proud of myself and happy with the people that encouraged me to do this."</i> –Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"I've learned that my words and thoughts are wanted(sic) to be heard and I am a very good speaker and reader in front of others. People & Stories really helped me."</i> – Fall 2011</p> <p><i>"I've grown in ways where I can freely be open with my opinion and not feel ashamed."</i> –Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I've learned "concentration". This program makes me want to write a story."</i> - Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"Speaking in front of a group gave me confidence."</i> –Spring 2012</p>	<p><i>"While reading stories in this group, I noticed how much detail was put into them. If these little details were left out, it would have taken away from the stories and they wouldn't be the same. This is the same for life."</i> – Fall 2011 participant</p> <p><i>"I've learned how to read and listen to a story as if I was in it. And I was able to identify with others' ideas."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I've learned that short stories have lots of loose ends that are meant to be filled in by the reader."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I learned I could write poetry, even if I didn't finish school."</i> –Spring 2012</p>	<p><i>"I learned how to use my imagination more."</i>– Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I've learned how literature can easily connect to life."</i> – Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"I liked "A Summer's Reading" (by Bernard Malamud). I kind of related to the young man in the story- trying to make people like me by lying about certain things I thought they would be proud of me doing."</i> –Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"A story can be interpreted in many different ways, depending on the reader."</i> – Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"Some of the ways I looked at things were shallow, when others told their views, it opened my thinking."</i> –Spring 2012</p>	<p><i>"There is a community of thought that is stronger than individual ideas. In this group, we've learned to listen to and respect the ideas and sensitivities of each other."</i> Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I've been exposed to contemporary authors, different points of view and stories that shared events from cultures I might not have encountered otherwise. I have also learned how others in the class have different takes on the same stories."</i> – Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"The memorable moments for me are simply the fact that different races and people from different backgrounds come together and actually enjoyed each other's fellowship."</i> –Spring 2013</p>	<p><i>"After four or five sessions, I'm more confident in expressing myself and in my communicating abilities."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I learned I can express myself better in a short period of time."</i> – Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"I've gotten much more comfortable speaking up about stories. One thing I love to do is debate, so I really enjoy being comfortable."</i> Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"If I was recommending this program to a friend, I'd say it: builds confidence in your own opinions, gives practice in expressing your ideas and you'll gain respect from others."</i> –Spring 2013</p>	<p><i>"This was one of those instances where putting our heads together really yielded some new discoveries that I don't think any one person would be able to find on their own."</i> – Fall 2011</p> <p><i>"I would recommend this program for the reading material as much as the social interaction with people outside your race and gender."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I would recommend this program highly. The reasons are numerous: personal insight, hearing different opinions and it would give you a love of the short story."</i> –Spring 2013</p>	<p><i>"I never had bedtime stories read to me, not as a child, or as a teen, nor as an adult – until your class. My mind began to wonder on how much have I missed out on by not being read to and then I also began to wonder how much had my children missed out on by not having no one read to them. One thing I chose to resolve- I will read to my four grandchildren upon my eventual release."</i> Fall 2010</p> <p><i>"Just the fact that we're incarcerated, it's nice to just stimulate your mind. But I would consider doing this in the town too. It's nice to get different people's points of view and you get an idea of who these people in the stories and out, are about."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"This class helped me view certain aspects in my life and realize that it really hasn't been all that bad."</i> – Fall 2012</p>

